Land owned by railway on both sides of the railway track in the country

4520. SHRI SHIVAJIRAO GIRIDHAR PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many hectares of land is owned by the Railways adjacent to both sides of the railway tracks in the whole country;

(b) out of this what is the hectares of land which has been taken up for forestry and if so, how much lands is now covered; and

(c) what programme Government propose to take to cover the remaining land into forestry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Features of Railways Annual Plan

4521. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main features of Railways Annual Plan for the year 1992-93;

(b) whether the Railways have to procure foreign exchange at market rate;

(c) if so, the likely additional burden on Indian Railways; and

(d) in what manner the Railways propose to meet the financial obligations in view of declining budgetary support and limited reliance on market borrowings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Create infrastructure capacity to meet revenue traffic targets of 354 million tonnes of originating traffic. Gauge conversion and electrification are some of the thrust areas.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The likely increase towards foreign exchange expenditure as a result of procuring foreign exchange at market rate and the resultant liability towards increased customs duty, would be about 32 per cent.

(d) By increasing productivity, adopting economy measures and prioritising important projects, Railways plan to tide over resource crunch?

Novel features of "Zero missing amenities fittings" introduced by the Railways

4522. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the novel features of "Zero Missing Amenities Fittings" introduced by the Railways;

(b) what is the additional outlay for this scheme;

(c) whether there is any long-distance line included in this scheme in the South Central Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) A pilot scheme has been introduced to ensure that all important amenity fittings like lights, fans, bathroom fittings, shutters etc. are provided in nominated passenger trains. Missing amenity fittings are identified and recouped during Primary Maintenance.

(b) No additional outlay has been provided for the Scheme. This will be implemented within available revenue grant.

(c) and (d) Six pairs of trains have been identified in the pilot scheme on South Central Railway in a phased manner starting from 1-10-1992 as listed below:—

(1) 2723/2724 Hyderabad-New Delhi A. P. Express.

(2) 7053/7054 Hyderabad-Madras Express.

(3) 7008/7007 Hyderabad-Vishakapatnam Godavari Exp.

(4) 7201/7202 Hyderabad-Guntur Golconda Exp.

(5) 7423/7424 Hyderabad-Tirupati Narayanadri Exp.

(6) 7551/7552 Aurangabad-Kacheguda Ajanta Express.

Life span of railway tracks in the country

4523. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the normal average life span of railway tracks in the country after it is laid and used for railway traffic;

(b) the details of the railway track in Bihar which has outlied the prescribed time-limit and still being used for rail traffic;

(c) whether Government propose to in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, replace such rail tracks in the near future the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The average service life of railway tracks is taken as 20 years to 40 years depending upon the density of traffic and other related environmental conditions.

(b) to (d) Railway tracks are being kept in "SAFE CONDITION" by maintenance or renewals as required.

It is planned to undertake renewals on BG on the railway system during the VIII Five Year Plan on condition basis and availability of funds. The renewals on MG will, however, be restricted to only the stretches where the same are required on safety considerations as the important routes are being taken up for conversion to BG under the uni-gauge policy.

Introduction of new routes and extension of existing routes

4524. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Andhra Samaj (Regd.) of Bhaspur, Madhya Pradesh regarding introduction of new routes and for the extension of the existing routes; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Examined but not found feasible.

पश्चिम रेलवे के रेलवे स्टेशनों में समूह "घ" (ग्रुप "डी") के कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति

4525. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी**: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पश्चिम रेलवे के मंडलों के अंतर्गत विभिन्न रेलवे स्टेशनों में पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान समूह "घ" (ग्रुप "डी") के अनेक कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति की गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो नियुक्त व्यक्तियों की स्टेशन-वार संख्या कितनी है ; और

(ग) उनकी भर्ती के लिए क्या मानदंड निर्धारित किए गए थे?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) से (ग) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

पश्चिम रेलवे में उपलब्ध माल-डिब्बे

4526. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान पश्चिम रेलवे को योजना के